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INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS PRIORITY RUEHCHI/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI PRIORITY 7298

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 5470

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 002930

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STATE FOR EAP/MLS, IO

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/09/2019

TAGS: PREL UNGA TH

SUBJECT: THAILAND: ON MIDDLE EAST UNGA RESOLUTIONS, THREE

ABSENTIONS AND ONE YES

Classified By: DCM James F. Entwistle, reason 1.4 (b,d)

(C) DCM and PolCouns raised ref A's concerns regarding UNGA resolutions with an anti-Israel bias with MFA Acting PermSec Chitriya Pimthong, who normally oversees International Organizations Affairs, on November 18. DCM noted Thailand's track record of abstaining on three resolutions regarding the activities of three UN bodies we oppose, as well as Thailand's recent vote in favor of the Goldstone report, which we found inaccurate, incomplete, and unhelpful to the Middle East Peace Process and successful achievement of the two-state solution. Chitriya confirmed that Thailand would continue to abstain on the three resolutions in question, in the same way it abstains on all country-specific human rights resolutions at UNGA (ref B). Thailand made a "humanitarian"-based exception in voting for the Goldstone report due to concerns about the Palestinian civilians killed by Israeli actions in Gaza.

JOHN